Market Comment | Bond markets await ECB meeting as commodity prices extend falls

Global Financial Markets Unit 21 Oct 2015

BBVA Research

 With no relevant macroeconomic news and the markets focusing on tomorrow's ECB meeting, European yields dropped, offsetting yesterday's rise with the exception of Portuguese yields. (GER 10Y: -5bp, FRA 10Y: -7bp, ITA 10Y: -5bp, SPA 10Y: -6bp, POR 10Y: +3bp). The latter is pricing-in political uncertainty: a left-wing coalition may prevent the re-election of Passos Coelho (Social Democratic Party), the winner of the recent parliamentary election. Similarly, and on the back of neutral interventions by FOMC's members, the US yield curve also flattened (US 10Y: -4bp, US 2Y: -1bp). The slip back in interest rates helped developed equity markets to recover some gains today, especially in European indices which rose, led by the DAX (Euro Stoxx: +0.4%, DAX: +0.8%, IBEX-35: +0.4%, CAC: +0.4%) The US indices are broadly unchanged at the time of writing, despite the positive opening on the back of the better-than-expected guarterly results of some relevant companies. There was as mixed performance among Asian markets, where the Nikkei rose in spite of disappointing export prints, while the Shanghai index slumped, trimming some of the monthly gains (Nikkei: +1.9%, Shanghai: -3.06%). On another front, oil prices fell (Brent: -1.8%, WTI: -0.8%) on the back of the rise of 7 million barrels in the U.S. commercial crude stocks, according to the American Petroleum Institute's report. The figure is far from the market's expectations which had estimated an increase of only around 4 million barrels. This fact, along with the ongoing global concerns - that also affected other commodities (cooper -1.2%) - hit the emerging currencies today (RUB: -1.3%, COP: -1.1%, BRL: -1.2%, MXN: -0.6%, CLP: -0.5%). The USD remained broadly unchanged against the other major currencies.

Update 17.00 CET 21 October, 2015 Table1

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Current level and changes at daily, weekly, monthly and annual frequencies)
Debt markets (changes in bp) Developed Manets David Sector (10, 107, 107, 44)
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*CDS, EMBI & MSCI indices with one day delay **Credit spread (BAA) with two days delay

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